

Appl. No. : 10/753,105
Filed : January 7, 2004

REMARKS

By way of summary, Claims 1-18 were originally filed with the application. By this amendment, Claims 1-12 are canceled without prejudice and no new claims are added. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-captioned application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-4 and 6-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by or obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,699,321 to Bivens et al. However, the Examiner also indicated that Claims 13-18 are allowed. While the Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection of the claims, the Applicant has canceled Claims 1-12 without prejudice in an effort to expedite prosecution of this Application. However, the Applicant reserves the right to prosecute these claims in the future.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims of the present application are in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. Should there be any impediment to the prompt allowance of this application that could be resolved through a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the number shown below.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 9/21/06

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